

EAST Search History

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L17	154561	(patent or case or application or docket) with (identifier or id or tag or number or family or type) and database	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2007/03/27 15:37
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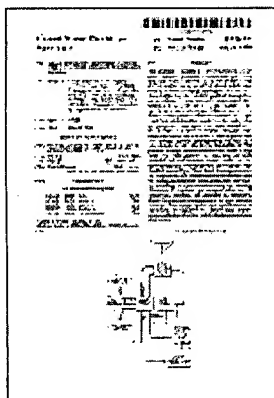
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Legal strategic analysis planning and evaluation control system and method

Frank Heckman et al

Patent summary



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Abstract

This invention is directed to a strategic planning control system, and more particularly to a computer-based, closed-loop legal strategic planning system and method having iterative convergence to an optimal strategy and dynamic tracking of current prevailing legal climates. The system of this invention includes a computer-generated legal strategy for streamlining the legal process by converting it from a traditional task-oriented system to a process-oriented system. By so doing, predetermined objectives and tasks are defined according to a disciplined time schedule, cost targets are defined, and deliverables agreed upon prior to beginning the legal process. A key aspect of the system and method of this invention is a series of computer programs which provide a strategic planning template outlining the objectives and tasks, and their associated timing. The template is case category and case type specific and presents the "best practices" strategic process from which to launch...

Patent number: 5875431

Filing date: Mar 15, 1996

Issue date: Feb 23, 1999

Inventors: Frank Heckman, Stuart E. Rickerson, Bruce Kauffman, Miles Zaremski

Current U.S. Classification

[705/7](#); [705/8](#); [705/11](#)

International Classification

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. An outcome-oriented, closed-loop legal strategic planning and control system comprising in operative combination:

a) a service provider having a first computer system, said first computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, and a telecommunications means, said first computer system further comprising:

- i) a historical legal case database, said historical legal database containing attribute data on completed paradigm legal cases,
- ii) an evidentiary resources database containing therein information to be used in the preparation and prosecution of a legal action,
- iii) a baseline template database having therein baseline templates for the execution of a legal process, said baseline templates further comprising objectives, tasks, and activities predetermined to provide the maximum likelihood for a desired legal outcome, and costs and schedules associated with said objectives, tasks and activities, and
- iv) a service pass-through means to permit access to third party databases, said third party databases containing information supplemental to information contained in said historical case database and said evidentiary resources database;

b) at least one client service subscriber, said service subscriber having at least one second computer system, said second computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, a display means, and at least one of a telecommunications means, optical disk drive, magnetic disk drive, and flash memory;

c) at least one law firm subscriber, said law firm subscriber having at least one third computer system, said third computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, a display means, and at least one of a telecommunication means, optical disk drive, magnetic disk drive, and flash memory;

d) a computer readable program code

G06F 1760

Search within this patent

Citations

Patent Number	Title	Issue date
<u>5159180</u>	Litigation support system and method	Oct 27, 1992
<u>5175681</u>	Computerized system for managing preparation and prosecution of applications in various countries for protection of industrial property rights	Dec 29, 1992
<u>5182705</u>	Computer system and method for work management	Jan 26, 1993
<u>5329447</u>	High integrity computer implemented docketing system	Jul 12, 1994
<u>5557515</u>	Computerized system and method for work management	Sep 17, 1996

Referenced by

Patent Number	Title	Issue date
<u>6098070</u>	Case management for a personal injury plaintiff's law office using a relational database	Aug 1, 2000
<u>6119097</u>	System and method for quantification of human performance factors	Sep 12, 2000
<u>6128620</u>	Medical database for litigation	Oct 3, 2000

system accessible by said first computer and said second computer, said computer code further comprising:

i) a first computer readable program code subsystem for configuring said second and said third computer systems to perform in any operational order at least one of accepting the keystroke entry of a user identification and password by the user of said computer readable program code system, accepting by user keystroke entry the selection of a task to be performed by said second or third computer system including at least one of the activation of a second or third computer readable program code subsystem, interfacing to telecommunications for downloading, uploading and for access to external computer readable database and computer applications, and for providing automatic reminders or suggestions to the user upon the occurrence of a set of predetermined conditions,

ii) a second computer readable program code subsystem for configuring said second and said third computer systems for at least one of entry of a first set of case-specific data and a second set of law firm-specific data, for determining and for providing a preliminary forecast of tasks and activities based upon entry of said case specific data, for providing projected costs for said tasks and activities, for permitting modification of said tasks, activities, and costs, for permitting entry of actual costs and completion dates of said tasks and activities, for permitting downloading and uploading of said actual costs and completion dates to said third computer system, for permitting transfer of updated baseline templates from said baseline template database of said first computer system to said memory storage means of said second computer system, and for transferring completed case information to said historical database of said first computer system,

iii) a third computer readable program code subsystem for configuring said second and said third computer systems to permit access to at least one of said evidentiary resources database of said first computer system, and to said third party database.

2. Method for an outcome-oriented, closed-loop legal strategic planning and controls system comprising the following steps in any operative order:

<u>6260033</u>	Method for remediation based on knowledge and/or functionality	Jul 10, 2001	a) providing a service provider having a first computer system, said first computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, and a telecommunications means, said first computer system further performing the steps of:
<u>6272471</u>	Method and apparatus for deterring frivolous professional liability claims	Aug 7, 2001	i) providing a historical legal case database, said historical database containing attribute data on completed paradigm legal cases,
<u>6301571</u>	Method for interacting with a test subject with respect to knowledge and functionality	Oct 9, 2001	ii) providing an evidentiary resources database containing therein information to be used in the preparation and prosecution of a legal action,
<u>6321206</u>	Decision management system for creating strategies to control movement of clients across categories	Nov 20, 2001	iii) providing a baseline template database having therein baseline templates for the execution of a legal process, said baseline templates further comprising objectives, tasks, and activities predetermined to provide the maximum likelihood for a desired legal outcome, and costs and schedules associated with said objectives, tasks and activities, and
<u>6321205</u>	Method of and system for modeling and analyzing business improvement programs	Nov 20, 2001	iv) providing a service pass-through means to permit access to third party databases, said third party databases containing information supplemental to information contained in said historical case database and said evidentiary resources database;
<u>6366925</u>	Network based legal services system	Apr 2, 2002	b) providing at least one client service subscriber, said service subscriber having at least one second computer system, said second computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, a display means, and at least one of a telecommunications means, optical disk drive, magnetic disk drive, and flash memory;
<u>6405173</u>	Decision management system providing qualitative account/customer assessment via point in time simulation	Jun 11, 2002	c) providing at least one law firm subscriber, said law firm subscriber having at least one third computer system, said third computer system having a central processing system, a memory storage means, a display means, and at least one of a telecommunication means, optical disk drive, magnetic disk drive, and flash memory;
<u>6430581</u>	Automated court document docketing filing system	Aug 6, 2002	d) providing a computer readable program code system accessible by said first computer and said second computer, said computer code performing the steps of:
<u>6499026</u>	Using hyperbolic trees to visualize data generated by patent-centric and group-oriented data processing	Dec 24, 2002	i) configuring said second and said third computer systems with a first computer readable program code subsystem for performing in any operational order at least one of the steps of: accepting the keystroke entry of a user identification and password by the user of said

<u>6505249</u>	Method for optimizing end-to-end processing performance by selecting optimal values after running benchmarks repeatedly with different values	Jan 7, 2003	computer readable program code system, accepting by user keystroke entry the selection of a task to be performed by said second or third computer system including at least one of the activation of a second or third computer readable program code subsystem, interfacing to telecommunications for downloading, uploading and for access to external computer readable databases and computer applications, and for providing automatic reminders or suggestions to the user upon the occurrence of a set of predetermined conditions,
<u>6615181</u>	Digital electrical computer system for determining a premium structure for insurance coverage including for counterclaim coverage	Sep 2, 2003	ii) configuring said second and said third computer systems with a second computer readable program code subsystem for performing in any operational order at least one of the steps of: entering a first set of case-specific data including at least case type and case category, entering a second set of law firm-specific data including authorized billers and billing rates, determining and providing a preliminary forecast of tasks and activities specific to the case category and case type based upon entry of said case-specific data, providing projected costs for said tasks and activities, modifying said tasks, activities, and costs, entering actual costs and completion dates of said tasks and activities, downloading and uploading of said actual costs and completion dates to said third computer system, transferring updated baseline templates from said baseline template database of said first computer system to said memory storage means of said second computer system, and transferring completed case information to said historical database of said first computer system,
<u>6622128</u>	Internet-based attorney-client billing system	Sep 16, 2003	iii) configuring said second and said third computer systems with a third computer readable program subsystem to permit accessing at least one of said evidentiary resources database of said first computer system, and said third party database.
<u>6684192</u>	Decision management system providing qualitative account/customer assessment via point in time simulation	Jan 27, 2004	
<u>6738760</u>	Method and system for providing electronic discovery on computer databases and archives using artificial intelligence to recover legally relevant data	May 18, 2004	
<u>6810382</u>	Personal injury claim management system	Oct 26, 2004	
<u>6810383</u>	Automated task management and evaluation	Oct 26, 2004	3. Method for a legal strategic planning and control system as in claim 2 further comprising, in any operative sequence, the steps of:
<u>6839707</u>	Web-based system and method for managing legal	Jan 4, 2005	a) performing a preliminary analysis upon notification of an event having potential or actual legal repercussion, said preliminary analysis including a gross estimate of the value of a legal action in response to said event and identifying sufficient factual basis

	information		to support proceeding with said legal action;
<u>6859785</u>	Diagnostic method and apparatus for business growth strategy	Feb 22, 2005	b) identifying the factual and legal issues in the case, and determining from those issues the case category and case type;
<u>6859806</u>	System and method for legal docketing using a customizable rules subset	Feb 22, 2005	c) entering into said second computer readable program code subsystem case specific data including the case category, case type, and type of legal notification into said second computer readable program subsystem;
<u>6901404</u>	Accessing dissemination of litigation information publically available courts of law database over network	May 31, 2005	e) entering into said second computer readable program code subsystem law firm-specific data including authorized billers and their billing rates;
<u>6952680</u>	Apparatus and method for tracking and managing physical assets	Oct 4, 2005	f) selecting the appropriate baseline template appropriate to the case category, case type and the legal notification type, said selection being provided by said second computer readable program code based upon entry into said second computer readable program subsystem of the case category and case type,
<u>6973441</u>	Method and apparatus for managing accounts payable	Dec 6, 2005	g) merging said case specific data and said law specific data with said baseline template to provide a preliminary forecast, said preliminary forecast containing a list of objectives, tasks, and activities, their schedule and expected costs for said objectives, tasks and activities;
<u>6975996</u>	Electronic subpoena service	Dec 13, 2005	h) obtaining consensus on and optionally modifying said list of objectives, tasks and activities, and their schedule and costs to produce a legal strategic plan wherein agreed upon objectives, tasks, activities and costs are established;
<u>6985868</u>	System, method and program product for automatically managing contracts	Jan 10, 2006	i) executing the objectives, tasks, and activities of said legal strategic plan, and entering into said second computer readable code subsystem the actual completion dates and costs of said objectives tasks and activities,;
<u>7024699</u>	Publication of an attorney-client privilege warning message	Apr 4, 2006	j) comparing the actual completion schedule and costs with the agreed upon schedule and costs in the legal strategic plan;
<u>7024397</u>	Method and apparatus for negotiating a real estate lease using a computer network	Apr 4, 2006	k) identifying any variances between the actual schedule and costs as compared to the agreed upon schedule and costs,
<u>7069592</u>	Web-based document system	Jun 27, 2006	l) performing a causation analysis to determine the source of any variances identified;
			m) mitigating the source of variance;
			n) perform an outcome modeling analysis to determine if the original assumptions are still true and if the elements of the legal strategic plan are still appropriate, and
			o) continuing execution of the strategic plan including comparing actual schedules and costs of said objectives, tasks, and activities, performing a variance analysis, and mitigating any variances, said

continuing execution creating a cost control system for on-going, real time cost management, and a litigation control system for on-going, real-time management of schedules and deliverables.

4. Method for a legal strategic planning and control system as in claim 3 further comprising, in any operative sequence, the steps of:

- a) identifying contingencies; and
- b) ascertaining whether said contingencies have a significant impact to the case.

5. Method for a legal strategic planning and control system as in claim 3 further comprising, in operative sequence, the steps of:

- a) accessing said evidentiary resources database of said first computer system to identify expert witnesses, best arguments for the case, and to identify the kinds of evidence successfully used in prior cases.

6. Method for a legal strategic planning and control system as in claim 3 further comprising, in operative sequence, the steps of:

- a) uploading case information from said second computer readable code subsystem to said historical information data base of said first computer system, said uploaded data being stored in said historical database for consideration as a paradigm on which to build a baseline template to provide and iteratively converging closed loop legal strategic planning and control system.

7. Method for a legal strategic planning and control system as in claim 6 further comprising, in operative sequence, the steps of:

- a) updating the said baseline template database of said first computer system with contemporary baseline templates developed from recent case paradigms to provide a dynamically adaptive closed-loop legal strategic planning and control system.

8. A computer useable medium having a computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing the creation of a legal strategic plan and the implementation of a closed-loop, iteratively converging, and

dynamically adaptive legal strategic planning and control system, the computer readable code means in the computer program product comprising:

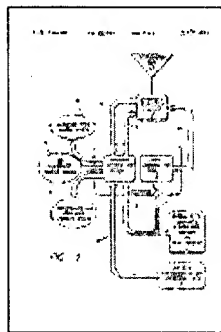
- a) a first computer readable program code means for configuring a second computer system located at a service subscriber site and a third computer system located at a law firm to perform in any operational order at least one of accepting the keystroke entry of the user identification and password of the user of said computer readable program code system, accepting by user keystroke entry the selection of a task to be performed by said second or third computer system including at least one of the activation of a second or third computer readable program code means, interfacing to telecommunications for downloading, uploading and for access to external computer readable databases and computer applications, and for providing automatic reminders or suggestions to the user upon the occurrence of a set of predetermined conditions;
- b) a second computer readable program code means for configuring said second and said third computer systems for receiving entry of at least one of a first set of case-specific data and a second set of law firm-specific data, for determining and for providing a preliminary forecast of tasks and activities based upon entry of said case specific data, for providing projected costs for said tasks and activities, for permitting modification of said tasks, activities, and costs, for permitting entry of actual costs and completion dates of said tasks and activities, for permitting downloading and uploading of said actual costs and completion dates to said third computer system, for permitting transfer of updated baseline templates from a baseline template database of a first remote service provider's computer system to a memory storage means of said second computer system, and for transferring completed case information to said historical database of said first computer system; and
- c) a third computer readable program code means for configuring said second and said third computer systems to permit access to at least one of said evidentiary resources database of said first computer system, and to a third party commercial database.

9. A program storage device, readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to

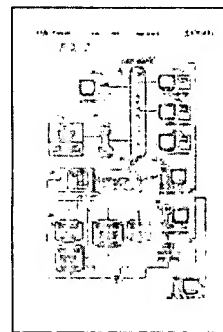
perform method steps for the creation of a legal strategic plan and for implementing a legal strategic planning and control system, said method steps comprising:

- a) configuring a second service subscriber's computer system and a third law-firm's computer system with a first computer readable program code subsystem for performing in any operational order at least one of the steps of: accepting the keystroke entry of the user identification and password of the user of said first computer readable program code subsystem, accepting by user keystroke entry the selection of a particular task to be performed by said second or third computer system including at least one of the activation of a second or third computer readable program subsystem, interfacing to telecommunications for downloading, uploading and for access to external computer readable databases and computer applications, and for providing automatic reminders or suggestions to the user upon the occurrence of a set of predetermined conditions;
- b) configuring said second and said third computer systems with said second computer readable program code subsystem for performing in any operational order at least one of the steps of: entering a first set of case-specific data including at least case type and case category; entering a second set of law firm-specific data including authorized billers and billing rates, determining and providing a preliminary forecast of tasks and activities specific to the case category and case type based upon entry of said case specific data, providing projected costs for said tasks and activities, modifying said tasks, activities, and costs, entering actual costs and completion dates to said third computer system, transferring updated baseline templates from a baseline template database of a first service provider's computer system to a memory storage means of said second computer system, and transferring completed case information to a historical database of said first computer system;
- c) configuring said second and said third computer systems with said third computer readable program code subsystem to permit accessing said historical database, an evidentiary resources database, and said baseline template database of said first computer system, and a third party commercial database.

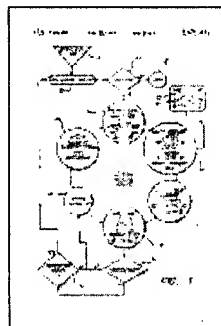
Drawings



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